Willard Parker Ward (1845-1928) is known as the first maker of ferromanganese in the United States. After graduating from Columbia in 1865, before its School of Mines granted degrees. He studied mining in the schools at Berlin and Claustral and returned to the US in 1869.

Newspaper ads in August 1871 read, “The Engineering and Mining Journal... has entered upon its 12th volume, with very fair prospects ahead. It is edited with care and ability by Rossiter W. Raymond and Willard P. Ward. Miners, scientific men and others wishing to subscribe to it should address ‘Scientific Publishing Co. 37 Park Row New York’ Subscription $4.00 per annum.”

Ward also managed Scientific Publishing.
The first ferromanganese that was manufactured in the United States was made by Ward in 1874, at the Union / Diamond Furnace, near Barstow Georgia.

Ward went on to be involved in a wide range of gold and silver projects in the west, he was involved with Colorado Fuel & Iron, was head of the Whiskey Trust and other diverse businesses and seems to have done ok financially.